

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph inserted in page 1, between lines 2 and 3, by the Preliminary Amendment filed April 5, 2004, as follows:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/019,290, filed January 4, 2002, now U.S. Patent No. 6,843,969, ~~the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference~~, and which is a National Stage Application of PCT Application No. PCT/JP00/04442, filed July 4, 2000, the entire contents of each of which are incorporated herein by reference.